

Expiring Federal Programs

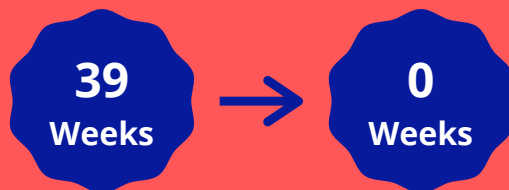


Three key unemployment programs are set to fully or partially expire after December 26, 2020.

After the week ending December 26, 2020:

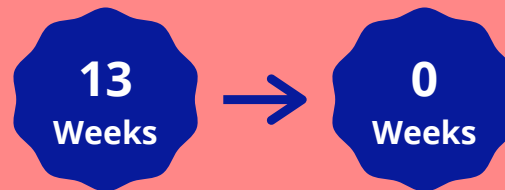
PUA

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) will end completely



PEUC

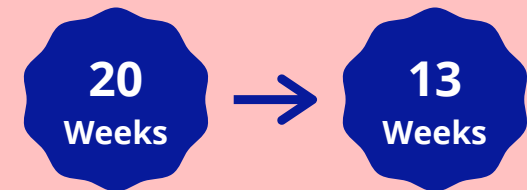
Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) will end completely



EB

Extended Benefits (EB) will revert from 20 to 13 weeks

In addition, if Illinois falls below the unemployment rate triggers for the 13 weeks of EB, then no weeks of EB will be available



Because these programs are federally funded, extensions are not within the authority of the state.



December 2, 2020

Information on Expiring Pandemic and Unemployment Programs

After the week ending **December 26, 2020**, three unemployment programs are set to fully or partially expire, due to dates outlined in the federal CARES Act and Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

1. **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) will end.**

PUA supports eligible individuals who are not eligible to receive regular unemployment benefits (independent contractors and those in self-employment) and who have become unemployed as a result of specific reasons related to COVID-19. Because PUA is a federal program, extensions are not within the authority of the state.

2. **Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) will end.**

PEUC provides an additional 13 weeks of federally funded unemployment benefits for eligible individuals who exhausted their regular unemployment benefits. Because PEUC is a federal program, extensions are not within the authority of the state.

3. **The additional 7 weeks of Extended Benefits (EB) will no longer be available.**

When the unemployment rate is above certain levels, EB is available in Illinois to eligible claimants who have exhausted their regular benefits. The standard amount of EB is 13 weeks. In times of “high unemployment” as defined by law, and when fully funded by the federal government, an additional 7 weeks is available, for a total of 20 weeks.

Without federal action, the additional 7 weeks will end no matter what the unemployment rate is on December 26, 2020. Additionally, when Illinois falls below the unemployment rate triggers for 13 weeks of EB, then EB will no longer be available in Illinois.



Frequently Asked Questions

Question: What happens if I am still receiving PEUC benefits when the program expires?

Answer: Under current federal law, you will not receive PEUC benefits for any weeks after December 26, 2020. You may qualify for Extended Benefits (EB). While the “high” unemployment (the additional 7 weeks) portion of extended benefits (EB) is also scheduled to end on December 26, 2020, if the unemployment rate in Illinois remains over certain levels, the basic 13-week EB program may be available to you. In most cases, if you qualify, you will be automatically moved to this program. For more information on eligibility for Extended Benefits, click [here](#).

Question: What happens if I am still receiving Extended Benefits (EB) benefits when the program expires?

Answer: Under current law, while the “high” unemployment (the additional 7 weeks) portion of extended benefits (EB) is scheduled to end on December 26, 2020, if the unemployment rate in Illinois remains over certain levels, the basic 13-week EB program will still be available to you. If you have not yet received 13 weeks of EB, you will be able to receive the remaining balance. If you have already received 13 weeks, or if the unemployment rate falls below the triggers for EB to be active, no further benefits will be available to you unless you qualify for a new, regular UI claim.

Question: What happens if I am still receiving PUA benefits when the program expires?

Answer: Because PUA is a federal program, extensions are not within the authority of the state, and no further benefits are available under current federal law after PUA expires on December 26, 2020. After January 1, 2021, if you have returned to work and earned enough W-2 wages (not as an independent contractor or in self-employment), you may be eligible for regular UI benefits. Please be aware that eligibility requirements differ for the regular UI and PUA programs – to learn more, click [here](#).

Question: What additional benefits, if any, will be available if I exhaust my regular UI benefits after December 26, 2020?

Answer: Under current law, you might qualify for extended benefits (EB). While the “high” unemployment (the additional 7 weeks) portion of EB is scheduled to end on December 26, 2020, if the unemployment rate in Illinois over certain levels, the basic 13-week EB program may be available to you. In most cases, if you qualify, you will be automatically moved to this program. For more information on eligibility for Extended Benefits, click [here](#).